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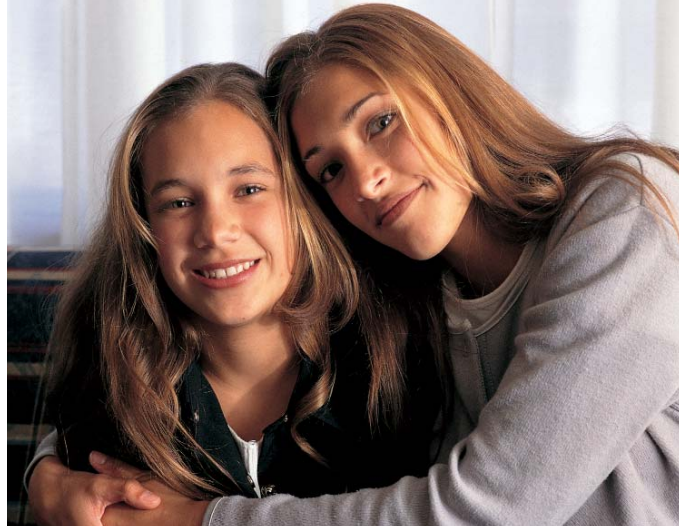


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It is the policy of the Department of Social Services (DSS) to make sure that applications for program benefits and services are made available to everyone and that program benefits are granted to all who meet eligibility standards. DSS staff, programs and policies must not discriminate against clients or applicants for services because of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion and national origin. DSS must also provide fair and equal access to all of its programs and services for people with disabilities; this includes both physical access to buildings and access to programs and services. To file a complaint of discrimination write: DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291 or call: (605) 773-3305. If you have a question regarding program services, please contact your nearest DSS office.

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Child Protection Services



**SOUTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

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Rapid City: 394-2525
510 N. Cambell, PO Box 2440,
57709-2440
Counties Served: Pennington

Sioux Falls: 367-5460
811 E. 10th St., Dept. 3, 57103-1650
Counties Served: Minnehaha, Northern
Lincoln

Sisseton: 698-3992
or toll-free 1-800-568-0004
CPP, Agency Village, PO Box 509, 57262

Sturgis: 347-2559
or toll-free 1-866-847-7334
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Counties Served: Meade

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Southern Lincoln

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2001 9th Ave. S.W., Suite 300, PO Box
670, 57201-0670
Counties Served: Roberts, Day, Clark,
Codington, Hamlin, Grant, Deuel

Winner: 842-0195
or toll-free 1-866-847-7339
649 W. 2nd St., PO Box 31, 57580-0031
Counties: Tripp, Gregory

Yankton: 668-3030
or toll-free 1-866-847-7338
3113 Spruce St., Suite 200, 57078-5320
Counties Served: Hutchinson, Bon
Homme, Yankton

Huron: toll-free 1-866-858-3204

110 3rd St. S.W. Suite 200, PO Box 1408,
57350-1408

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Beadle, Jerauld

Lake Andes: toll-free 1-866-293-0845

3rd & Lake, PO Box 190, 57356-0190

Counties Served: Charles Mix

Martin: toll-free 1-866-847-7337

404 3rd Ave., PO Box 250, 57551-0250

Counties Served: Jackson, Bennett

Mission: toll-free 1-866-847-7339

671 N. Marge Lane, PO Box 818,
57555-0818

Counties Served: Mellette, Todd

Mitchell: 995-8000

or toll-free 1-866-293-0845

116 E. 11th Ave., 57301-1432

Counties Served: Sanborn, Aurora,
Davison, Hanson, McCook, Douglas

Mobridge: 845-2922

or toll-free 1-866-442-2095

920 6th St. W., PO Box 160, 57601-0160

Counties Served: Perkins, Corson,
Campbell, Walworth, Potter

Pierre: toll-free 1-866-442-2095

912 E. Sioux, 57501-5070

Counties Served: Sully, Hyde, Hughes,
Stanley, Jones, Haakon

Pine Ridge: 867-2236

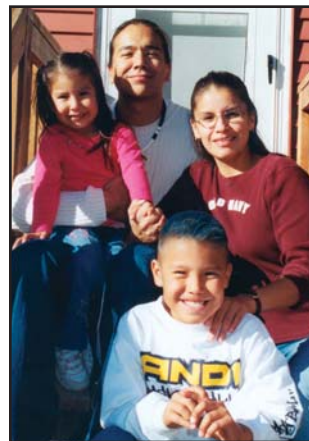
or toll-free 1-866-847-7337

Planning Center Building, PO Box 279,
57770-0279

Counties Served: Shannon

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the South Dakota Department of Social Services Child Protection Services is to work together to bring safety, permanency and well-being to families to



build a better tomorrow. Child Protection Services protects children who are at risk of abuse or neglect while making every effort to keep families intact. Child Protection Services also offers referrals for counseling for families, training for adoptive or foster parents, and licensing services for child welfare agencies.

Child Protection Services staff believe that respect, integrity, teamwork and accountability are the core values of the agency. Our commitment to these values will guide our thoughts and actions as helpers, colleagues and employees. These core values are understood, accepted and to be applied by all Child Protection Services staff.

PROTECTIVE SERVICES

State law requires doctors, mental health professionals, social workers, counselors, child care providers, hospital and school personnel, law enforcement officers, parole or court services officers, religious healing practitioners, domestic abuse shelter employees or volunteers, coroners or any safety-sensitive position as defined in subdivision 23-3-64 (2) to report child abuse. Failure by a mandatory reporter to report child abuse or neglect is a misdemeanor.

Anyone who has reasonable cause to suspect that a person under age 18 has been abused or neglected may make a report. The report is made to the Department of Social Services, law enforcement or the state's attorney. Child Protection Services and law enforcement agencies are required by law to investigate reports of child abuse or neglect. Any person who knows or suspects that a child has been physically or emotionally injured, neglected or sexually abused should report it immediately.

Protective services is a series of services to children in need of protection. It includes intake and screening of referrals of child abuse and neglect involving families who have a caretaking responsibility for children. Referrals are assigned for an initial family assessment.

CONTACT US

For more information about CPS or to report child abuse or neglect, contact your nearest CPS office.

Aberdeen: (605) 626-2388 or toll-free 1-866-858-3204

422 S. Washington, PO Box 1300,
57402-1300

Counties Served: McPherson, Edmunds, Brown, Marshall

Belle Fourche: toll-free 1-866-847-7334

609 5th Ave., 57717-1405

Counties Served: Harding, Butte

Brookings: toll-free 1-866-847-7335

1310 Main Ave. S., Suite 101, 57006-3893

Counties Served: Kingsbury, Brookings, Miner, Lake, Moody

Chamberlain: toll-free 1-866-847-7339

320 Sorensen Dr., 57325-1022

Counties Served: Lyman, Buffalo, Brule

Custer: toll-free 1-866-847-7334

1164 Mt. Rushmore Rd. #3, 57730-2133

Counties Served: Custer

Deadwood: toll-free 1-866-847-7334

20 Cliff St., PO Box 607, 57732-0607

Counties Served: Lawrence

Eagle Butte: toll-free 1-866-442-2095

1302 N. Willow, PO Box 530, 57625-0530

Counties Served: Ziebach, Dewey

Hot Springs: toll-free 1-866-847-7334

2500 Minnekahta Ave., Bldg 1, PO Box 729, 57747-0729

Counties Served: Fall River

SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTION

Special needs adoption is a legal process that unites children who have special needs with adoptive parents. Children considered for special needs adoption may be physically, mentally or emotionally handicapped. These children are primarily victims of abuse and neglect, and parental rights have been terminated. They are usually over age eight, part of a sibling group or a minority group.

LICENSING

South Dakota law requires child welfare agencies to be licensed. These agencies include family foster homes, residential treatment centers, group care centers for minors, independent living preparation programs, maternity homes and child placement agencies. Licensing is intended to ensure that agencies maintain minimum standards of care and do not present children with any further threat of abuse or neglect. The department trains prospective foster and adoptive parents to become placement resources for children who are either temporarily or permanently unable to live in their own homes. This training is a group process known as Parents Resource for Information, Development and Education (PRIDE). The program involves 30 hours of training and includes a home study process and home consultations.

An initial family assessment is a neutral approach to gathering information in response to a report of suspected child abuse or neglect. Information is gathered through interviews, observations and reviewing documents. It also includes making a determination as to the validity of the allegations in the report, determining whether or not there are any other abuse or neglect issues, making a determination as to the immediate safety and needs of the child, and determining risk to the child through identification of family/child strengths and stresses.

If it is determined that the child is unsafe or is at risk of abuse or neglect, a Child Protection Services social worker will develop a case plan with the parents to improve the situation. Normally, a child would not be removed from the home. But, if a child appears to be in immediate danger, a judge may order removal of the child from the situation or a law enforcement officer may take protective custody.



Child Protection Services does not have the authority to take custody of a child. If parents are cooperative and succeed in making improvements, court action may not be necessary. In severe cases, the state's attorney may initiate a criminal proceeding.



Support and home-based services are also available to families in which children are at risk of abuse or neglect. Support services include training for families in parenting skills and home management. These services also provide referrals for counseling and other assistance.

Intensive family services are a cooperative effort among the Department of Corrections, the Department of Human Services, the Department of Labor and the Office of Child Protection Services. Intensive in home services are provided to families of youth who have been placed in correctional residential facilities. In home services are provided in an attempt to stabilize and/or enhance family functioning so the youth's eventual reintegration into the home is more likely to be successful.

PLACEMENT SERVICES

If children are removed from their homes to ensure their safety, the state must place them in a temporary or permanent home where they will be safe and well cared for. The following placement services are available.

Kinship placement provides a child with 24-hour temporary care and supervision by a relative while permanent plans are developed.

Foster care provides a child with 24-hour temporary care and supervision in a licensed foster home while parents and social workers try to resolve the family's problems.

Group care provides 24-hour service for children with family and interpersonal conflicts. They may be unable to tolerate a family setting or they may require ongoing counseling in a structured program using community-based resources.

Subsidized guardianship provides financial assistance to a legal guardian who provides permanent care for a child.

Residential treatment provides 24-hour services for children who have behavioral or emotional problems requiring intensive professional assistance and therapy in a highly structured, self-contained environment.